

In the Specification:

The paragraph beginning on page 20, line 3 has been amended as follows:

At this point, a 4.22-gram sample of the resulting deep red colored mixture was added to 1.50-gram sample of  $\gamma$ -phase SVO in a round bottom flask. The ratio of  $\gamma$ -phase SVO to  ~~$\gamma$ -phase~~  $\epsilon$ -phase SVO in this mixture was 1:5. The solvent was removed from the mixture using a rotary evaporator under reduced pressure. The remaining solid was heated from room temperature to about 500°C under an air atmosphere, and held there for about 15 minutes. Total heating time was about 1 hour. The resulting sample was then cooled and analyzed by X-ray powder diffraction; differential thermal analysis and BET surface area measurements. The X-ray powder diffraction data confirmed the presence of both  $\epsilon$ -phase SVO and  $\gamma$ -phase SVO. The material had a BET surface area of 0.91 m<sup>2</sup>/g.